

Deputies' Meeting

Tuesday, 17 June 1952

PRESENT: Messrs. Dulles, Wisner, Wolf, Becker, [REDACTED]

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Mr. Dulles:

a. Stated he had received a call from Paul T. Culbertson, Counselor of US Embassy in Mexico, and Ruth Hall, Chief of the Mexican Desk in State, concerning representations made by [REDACTED] on East/West trade. After some discussion, Mr. Becker noted that (1) Park Armstrong's office had received practically all the information we had on this subject; (2) Mr. Culbertson and Mrs. Hall should contact Armstrong's office for the information required; (3) he would undertake to discuss this matter further with Mr. Armstrong.

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c. Reported on the hearing he and Mr. Becker attended before the Independent Offices Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee yesterday and stated that the Committee, and Congressman Thomas, in particular, was most insistent that we testify on Soviet Atomic Energy Capabilities and had agreed that such testimony could be made off the record if necessary. Mr. Dulles went on to say that he had advised the Committee that (1) CIA served the National Security Council; (2) in view of this fact, authorization from the Council would be necessary before the above testimony could be given; (3) the Director of Central Intelligence was required by law to protect sources. Mr. Dulles further stated that (1) Congressman Phillips had indicated that it would not be necessary for us to "disclose sources;" (2) it was perfectly clear that the Committee was attempting to use CIA as an independent agency to comment on testimony given by other agencies (in this case Defense and AEC); (3) members of the Committee had indicated a desire to receive intelligence information "first hand" even though they had been advised that information in possession of this Agency on Soviet Atomic Energy Capabilities had been furnished Defense and AEC and, in fact, portions of this information had been collected and made available to us by these agencies; (4) John Tabor had suggested that possibly it might be wise for us to discuss this whole matter with "several members of the Committee"; however, he (Mr. Dulles) did not think this such a sound idea; (5) he had reported our actions before the Committee to Gordon Dean and to Mr. Lay, who had undertaken to discuss our "dilemma" with the President; (6) he had also advised Frank Nash of this problem; (7) he was holding in abeyance a discussion of this matter with Congressman Mahon until such time as he received a report on Mr. Lay's talk with the President.

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Mr. Wisner:



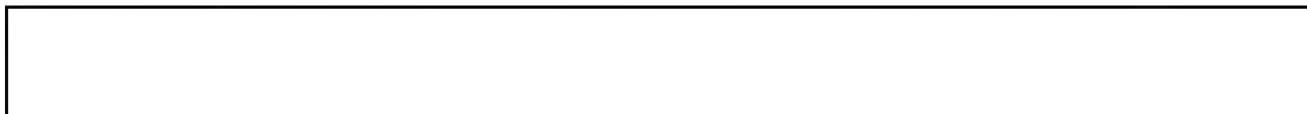
b. Noted he had attempted to get in touch with Admiral Souers yesterday concerning the President's talk on the Gray PSB Report and had found that Adm. Souers was out of town. In this connection, Mr. Wisner raised the question as to whether we should continue to go forward with this in view of Malik's recent statement. D/DCI said that we should.

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d. Noted he and some of his people were holding discussions with Ambassador Ellis Briggs today.

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Mr. Wolf:

a. Stated that (1) we were going ahead with estimates on the cost of refurbishing our present buildings; (2) there was still a chance of our acquiring that portion of the Munitions Building occupied by the Navy.



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